

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (new): A method of operating a fluid treatment device employing a non-bonded media for treating the fluid, comprising the steps of:

containing the non-bonded media in an annular chamber located between an inner perforated cylinder and an outer perforated cylinder of said fluid treatment device;

5 passing an influent radially through the non-bonded media for treatment of the influent during a treatment operation; and

passing a purge fluid down an upper portion of the inner perforated cylinder during a packing operation and then outwardly into the annular chamber to pack the non-bonded media in the annular chamber.

Claim 27 (new): The method of claim 26, further including carrying said purge fluid out of said fluid treatment device at an outlet port different from an outlet port of a treated influent, defined by an affluent.

Claim 28 (new): The method of claim 26, further including passing the purge fluid during the purge operation through said outer perforated cylinder in a direction opposite a direction the influent passes through the outer perforated cylinder during the treatment operation.

Claim 29 (new): The method of claim 26, further including closing an upper portion of the inner perforated cylinder during the purge operation, and opening the upper portion of the inner perforated cylinder during a backwash operation.

Claim 30 (new): The method of claim 29, further including closing the upper portion of the inner perforated cylinder during the treatment operation.

Claim 31 (new): The method of claim 29, further including using a ball located above an orifice in a plate located in the upper portion of said inner perforated cylinder for closing and opening the upper portion of said inner perforated cylinder.

Claim 32 (new): The method of claim 26, further including providing a top end cap with ports therein and providing a bottom end cap with ports therein, and providing a case for said fluid treatment device where the top and bottom end caps cap the respective ends of said case, and wherein fluids are carried to and from said fluid treatment device only via the ports in said top and bottom end caps.

Claim 33 (new): The method of claim 32, further including capturing said case, said inner and outer perforated cylinders between said top and bottom end caps.

Claim 34 (new): The method of claim 26, further including increasing the velocity of the purge fluid passing through the outer perforated cylinder as a function of the accumulation of the non-bonded media in the lower portion of the annular chamber during the purge operation.

Claim 35 (new): The method of claim 34, wherein the increased accumulation of the non-bonded media in the lower portion of the annular chamber during the purge operation reduces the area of the outer perforated cylinder through which the purge fluid can flow, thus increasing the velocity thereof.

Claim 36 (new): The method of claim 35, further including removing the residue on the outside of the outer perforated cylinder with greater efficiency using a greater velocity of the purge fluid.

Claim 37 (new): The method of claim 26, wherein said moving step includes fluidizing the non-bonded media to dislodge particulate matter therefrom.

Claim 38 (new): The method of claim 26, further including during the packing operation passing the purge fluid through the outer perforated cylinder in a direction to carry with it particulate matter accumulated on the outside of said outer perforated cylinder

Claim 39 (new): The method of claim 26, wherein an area of the outer perforated cylinder through which the purge fluid passes is reduced as the non-bonded media is packed in the lower portion of said annular chamber.

Claim 40 (new): Apparatus for carrying out the method of claim 26.

Claim 41 (new): A fluid treatment device employing a non-bonded media, comprising:
an inner perforated cylinder and an outer perforated cylinder, a space between said inner and outer perforated cylinders defining an annular chamber for containing the non-bonded media;
an inlet at a top of said inner perforated cylinder for admitting a packing fluid for packing said
5 non-bonded media in said annular chamber; and
a one-way valve in said inner perforated cylinder for blocking flow of the packing fluid down said inner perforated cylinder, said one-way valve directing the packing fluid to flow from said inner perforated cylinder and downwardly in the annular chamber to pack the non-bonded media therein.

Claim 42 (new): The fluid treatment device of claim 41, wherein a top of the non-bonded media in said annular chamber is at an elevation above said one-way valve.

Claim 43 (new): The fluid treatment device of claim 41, wherein said inner perforated cylinder has large holes formed therein at an elevation higher than large holes formed in said outer perforated cylinder.